

## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for preparing a fabricated leaf tea product comprising ~~mixing the steps of:~~
  - (a) ~~mixing~~ leaf tea with tea solids derived from tea powders, ~~the method being characterised in that the mixture of tea leaves and tea powder is simultaneously wetted and dried to produce a mixture;~~ and
  - (b) ~~simultaneously wetting and drying the mixture to produce the fabricated leaf tea product.~~
2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the amount of tea powder mixed with the leaf tea is between about 10 and about 75% of the weight of the leaf tea.
3. The method according to claim 1 wherein the fabricated leaf tea product is dried to about 3 to about 8% moisture.
4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the mixing of the leaf tea and the tea powder and the simultaneous wetting and drying are performed in a ~~fluidised~~ fluidized bed
5. (currently amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein the mixture of leaf tea and tea powder is wetted by spraying hot water on to the ~~fluidised~~ fluidized bed.

6. The method according to claim 5 wherein the hot water is at a temperature in the range about 30 to about 60°C.
7. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 5 wherein the temperature of the ~~fluidised~~ fluidized bed is in the range about 35 to about 50°C.
8. (currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the temperature of the ~~fluidised~~ fluidized bed is about 35°C.
9. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the fabricated leaf tea product give an infusion under 10 to 15 seconds with water at a temperature between 80 and 90°C.